

APPROVED
MIDDLE PENINSULA-NORTHERN NECK
LOCAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF January 22, 2007

Chairman, Frank Jewell, called the regular meeting of the Middle Peninsula-Northern Neck Local Human Rights Committee to order at 1:13 PM on January 22, 2007, at Discovery Place located in Warner, Virginia. Board members in attendance were Frank Jewell, Barbara Vest, Judith Link, and Bill Reisner. Carl Gerster was absent. Agency representatives included Chuck Walsh, Joanne Brown, O'Connell McKeon - MPNN CSB, Warren Nesbitt - Sola, Inc., Ida Adams - Bridges of RGH/Bridges Inpatient Unit, Mary Hayden and Terry Atkins - Heart Havens, Mary Forrest - The Brambles, Jim Allison - Puller Center (Arc of Peninsula), Jeany Murphy - Caring Family Home. Willie Barnes, Human Rights Advocate was also in attendance.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Frank Jewell that the minutes be approved with the correction in the last sentence of the second paragraph under *New Business* to read as follows: After much discussion, Ms. Barnes stated that the Extension Notification Letter to the LHRC Chairperson must include the date the extension ended. The motion to approve the minutes with this correction was seconded by Barbara Vest. Vote was unanimous.

Program Presentation

Chuck Walsh welcomed the committee to Discovery Place and introduced O'Connell McKeon, MPNN CSB Clinical Director, to give the program presentation. She described Discovery Place as the only program of its kind that incorporates both crisis stabilization and transitional housing. O'Connell then presented information about the various services within the program.

Event Report Statistics

Reports from each provider on events occurring during the period of October 1, 2006 through December 31, 2006 were given as follows:

Bridges of RGH-Structured Outpatient Program – Ida Adams reported no events and 1 change in the program in that Dr. Nazir Chaudhary is the Medical Director. There was no restraint or seclusion.

Bridges of RGH Inpatient Unit – Ida Adams reported no events and 1 change in the program in that Dr. Nazir Chaudhary is the Medical Director. There was no restraint or seclusion.

Heart Havens – Mary Hayden reported no events, no change to program and no restraint or seclusion.

Arc of Peninsula-Puller Center – Jim Allison reported no events, no change to program and no restraint or seclusion.

Middle Peninsula-Northern Neck CSB – Chuck Walsh reported the Mental Health and Substance Abuse Division had no events, no change to program and no restraint or seclusion this quarter. The MR Division had 3 client to client abuse complaints that were determined unfounded, as staff followed proper policy and procedures. There was 1 other complaint this quarter, which was also determined to be unfounded. No change to program and no incidents of restraint or seclusion.

Sola, Inc. – Warren Nesbitt reported no events, no change to program and no restraint or seclusion.

The Brambles – Mary Forrest reported no change to program and no restraint or seclusion. There was one incident reported, in which Brambles acted as an agent of the client and filed the report with APS, Human Rights and Case Management at MPNN CSB.

Caring Family Home – Jeany Murphy reported no events, no change to program and no restraint or seclusion.

Frank Jewell informed everyone of a memo from Reginald Daye expressing his concern about the lack of complaints being filed with the programs.

New business

Jeany Murphy requested that her second location be granted affiliation with this LHRC. Her first location already has permanent affiliation and this new location will have the same policies and procedures as the first.

Frank Jewell expressed his concern with about adding a second unit of Caring Family Home that is ten miles further from the first location in Hampton. He remarked that unlike most of the Middle Peninsula-Northern Neck region, Hampton is an urban area and it is far away from the northern end of the current area covered by the LHRC, making it difficult to know what the needs of the agencies in Hampton may be. He also stated that adding this second location will discourage participation from the committee members who live at the northern end of the LHRC's coverage area.

Barbara Vest questioned why there weren't more resources for expanding agencies, to which Advocate Willie Barnes replied that there is an ongoing problem with that throughout the whole region, especially Regions 4 and 5, which include the Hampton and Virginia Beach areas. Jeany explained that she attempted to establish a new LHRC in 2005, but was too small to do it on her own and seemed to be the only agency interested in doing so.

Frank Jewell commented that if the Advocates' Office needs additional LHRCs in Hampton, it is their responsibility to help find members and staff them. He further stated that if the areas of the various LHRCs needed to be changed, that change should be made in a thoughtful manner, not on an ad hoc basis.

Advocate Willie Barnes responded that according to state regulation, it is the responsibility of each individual program affiliate to make any efforts necessary in establishing additional LHRCs within a region.

After further discussion, Barbara Vest motioned to give Caring Family Home's second location temporary affiliation, with the understanding that Jeany Murphy will actively pursue an alternative LHRC for permanent affiliation. She included that Frank Jewell would express the committee's disquiet over the issue to the state office and that upon circulating this expressed sentiment to the board members, he would then, forward the documentation to the necessary agencies. The motion was seconded by Frank Jewell. Vote was unanimous.

Chuck Walsh asked that the new MPNN CSB intensive outpatient substance abuse program receive permanent affiliation with this LHRC. The new program will operate under the already licensed Substance Abuse program of the CSB. Barbara Vest made the motion to grant permanent affiliation and it was seconded by Bill Reisner. Vote was unanimous.

Old Business

The previously recommended By-Law changes were deemed reasonable by the committee and a motion was made by Bill Reisner to approve the changes. The motion was seconded by Barbara Vest. A request for By-Law changes will be sent to the State Human Rights Office for final approval.

Due to not having any drafts of previous or sample agreements on-hand, review of the Program Affiliate Agreement was postponed until the April 2007 meeting.

Training

Advocate Willie Barnes announced that her training was for the committee members only; therefore, the affiliates were dismissed from the meeting. The topic of her training was the process of application for program affiliates. After stating some steps that are required by the state, Ms. Barnes reminded the committee members that policies and procedures for any new program must be approved by the state before the program can request affiliation with an LHRC. The Office of Human Rights sends out approval letters verifying this approval. She encouraged committee members to ask those programs requesting affiliation to view a copy of this approval letter. Also, Ms. Barnes informed everyone that affiliation must be notated in the minutes as temporary or permanent. If a program is granted temporary affiliation, that program must, at the next meeting, request either permanent status or a continuation of their temporary affiliation, as temporary status is only valid for 90 days.

Announcement/Updates

None at this meeting.

Executive Session

On motion of Barbara Vest, seconded by Judith Link, the LHRC voted to go into executive session per VA Code Section 2.2-3711A(4) for the protection of the privacy of individuals in personal matters not related to public business, namely for the purpose of hearing patient-related information involving a complaint allegation.

Upon returning to public session each member of the committee certified that to the best of their knowledge only matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements and only such matters for the protection of the privacy of individuals and their records in personal matters not related to public business were heard and discussed or considered.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m. The next scheduled meeting will be held on Monday, April 23, 2007 at 1:00 p.m. at Sola, Inc. in Gloucester, Virginia.

Respectfully submitted,

Tamara Davenport
LHRC Administrative Support